



COMMAND PHILOSOPHY

Marine Detachment Fort Meade
Defense Information School

Marine Detachment Horizontal Themes

The Marine Corps Combat Camera and Public Affairs communities represent a very special group of warriors among our Corps. We are warriors first and foremost, but we also carry the crucial responsibility of telling the story of our Corps to the world.

The training grounds of the Defense Information School are where you will develop and refine your technical skills as a professional communicator. The Marine Detachment is where you will hone your warriorship. These disciplines are fundamental to your development as a whole Marine and your ability to execute our demanding mission.

As the commanding officer, I am wholly committed to your professional development and future success. I will establish a professional training environment that challenges you to excel in academics, combat fitness and character development.

The primary focus of the Marine Detachment is sustaining the transformation of the junior Marines who are entering our profession. It is a transformation that began in our recruit depots or officer candidate school. It is a transformation that is founded on our core values of honor, courage and commitment. These values will serve as the cornerstone of your training while at DINFOS, whether you're in the classroom, on the PT field, at the field training site or on liberty.

Understand that you are here to learn a critical skill. The courses of instruction at DINFOS are demanding and require you to take an active role in your development. The pursuit of academic excellence must be your top priority. The DINFOS faculty and Marine Detachment staff are wholly committed to your success. Seek assistance; take the initiative and responsibility for your professional development.

As detachment Marines I challenge you with these horizontal themes which are named as such because they span all areas of your life as a Marine. The horizontal themes overlap and, in most instances, all of them will apply to any situation you may face

1.) Establish Dominance.

- *By your actions and attitude. In the classroom, during PT, on leave or liberty you are a Marine 24/7, tattoo the core values of honor, courage and commitment on your soul.*
- *You have the great honor to serve as a Marine. Own every situation you are presented with and establish your mastery of it.*
- *Remain in control, of yourself, your peers and your environment.*

2.) Marine First, Marine always.

- *You are always a Marine, your MOS is secondary.*
- *If you fail at being a Marine it does not matter how good you are at your job you have lost all credibility.*

3.) Be aggressive

- *Make things happen, do not wait around for handouts, seek out challenge and embrace it.*
- *In life, work, PT and learning.*
- *Able to thrive in chaotic environments.*

4.) Focus on knowledge and physical fitness.

- *Seek out knowledge, not just in your MOS but all knowledge, make yourself a better person.*
- *PT is the foundation of who we are. Challenge yourself.*
- *PT is a culture and an attitude you must foster this daily.*
- *You can do more than you think you can and you are better than you think you are.*

My end state is seeing you at graduation as a confident, competent, ethical and professional warrior ready to face any challenge the Marine Corps may throw at you..

Semper Fidelis,

Esteban T. Vickers
Maj USMC
Commanding Officer